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REPORT

50X1-HUM

CD NO.

COUNTRY North Korea
SUBJECT Sociological
HOW PUBLISHED Monthly periodical
WHERE PUBLISHED Pyongyang, Korea
DATE PUBLISHED 31 Jan 1949
LANGUAGE Korean

DATE OF INFORMATION 1949

DATE DIST. 24 Jun 1949

NO. OF PAGES 3

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

SOURCE Kumhoja (Laborers).EDUCATION IN NORTH KOREA

During the days of Japanese administration, the number of elementary schools was 1.7 per township, but today there are an average of 4.1 schools in each township throughout entire North Korea, even in the remote farm villages and mountain areas. Educational progress achieved in 1947 and 1948 under the leadership of the People's Committee is illustrated below:

Year	No of Schools	No of Pupils	Percent of School-Age Children in School
1944	1,372	871,894	58
1946	2,482	1,182,707	77
1947	3,008	1,341,018	89
1948	3,245	1,378,536	94.3

Plans for the year 1949 call for an expansion of school facilities to accommodate 97 to 98 percent of the school-age children and by 1950, the last year of the people's two-year economic program, the ambitious educational program will be able to take care of every child of school age.

Now, what is the educational situation in the southern half of the Republic? According to the Seoul Shinmun, dated 14 June 1948, there were 68,271 school-age children in Seoul, but only 12,621 children were accommodated due to the lack of school facilities. It is wondered by many as to what became of the 360 million won the Government levied on the citizens of Seoul as a school-expansion tax, in addition to the monthly tuition fees and special donations the Government has solicited.

With regard to secondary education, there were about 0.5 high schools per county in North Korea prior to the liberation but today, there are an average of 8.7 high schools in each county. Secondary education facilities in North Korea are as follows:

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<u>Year</u>	<u>No of High Schools</u>	<u>No of Students</u>	<u>Student Increase (in %)</u>
1944	50	1,222	100
1946	217	21,211	413
1947	394	217,914	1,268
1948	772	275,627	1,619

Plans are now under consideration in North Korea to make secondary education a part of the compulsory education system, continuous from the elementary grades.

What is the secondary education situation in the southern half of the Republic today? In 1946, there were 385 high schools, but in 1947 that number was reduced to 376, and in 1948 the number was a little increased, bringing the total number of high schools in South Korea to 428.

In 1948, 174,042 boys and girls graduated from the elementary grades in South Korea, of which only 54,840 or 31.5 percent were admitted to high school, according to the Korean Economic Review, 1948. The following figures offer a picture of secondary education opportunities both in Pyongyang and Seoul:

<u>City</u>	<u>Name of High School</u>	<u>No of Applicants</u>	<u>No Admitted</u>	<u>Percent Admitted</u>
Seoul	Kyonggi Middle School	1,382	200	14.4
"	Yongsan Middle School	2,095	200	9.5
"	Kyonggi Girls High School	650	200	30.7
Pyongyang	Kwangsung High	564	540	97.5
"	Pyongyang High	394	394	100
"	Somun Girls High	400	389	97.3

The data in this comparison is somewhat questionable, since there are more high schools in both cities than appeared in this table.

In contrast with the decaying educational program of the South, the educational institutions in the North are thriving, as illustrated by the progress made in 1948 over 1947, as shown below:

<u>School</u>	<u>City (in %)</u>	<u>Farm Village (in %)</u>
People's school (elementary)	107	108
Junior high	117	132
Senior high	112	236

North Korea's effort in education is not limited to elementary and secondary education alone. The need for specialized education on higher levels has been recognized and an equal emphasis has been placed upon higher education. The following figures show the progress made in the field of specialized education during the past 3 years:

<u>School</u>	<u>No of Schools</u>	<u>No of Students</u>
Industrial	18	6,682
Railroad	1	874
Telecommunication	1	499
Agricultural	22	5,775
Medical	6	1,857
Commerce	4	1,293
Arts	3	376
Normal	13	10,415

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There was not even one university in North Korea at the time of our liberation, but today there are the Kim Il Sung University and 11 other colleges in North Korea, and also one Russian-Language College, as shown below:

<u>Name</u>	<u>No of Colleges</u>	<u>No of Students</u>
Kim Il Sung University	1	2,416
Engineering College	2	2,382
Agricultural College	1	809
Medical College	3	1,414
Normal College	1	610
Teachers College	3	1,400
Russian-Language College	<u>1</u>	<u>250</u>
Total	12	8,981

It must be pointed out that the majority of the university and college students are sons and daughters of workers, and of these 1,195 are girl students. The members of the teaching staff and the student body of these universities and colleges are all active members of student democratic organizations of one kind or another. They work hand in hand in promoting political opinions among the people.

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